

undertaken were contrary to the Geneva Convention, he said. The main features of the war were brutality, use of poisons, taking of hostages, unproportionate acts of retaliation, use of toy bombs, and brutal treatment of prisoners.

The Loya Jirgha convened in April by the Government had not been representative, he continued, because it did not represent more than 4 million refugees who had fled the country, about one-third the total population. The Loya Jirgha did not constitute a realization of the right of self-determination, paramount within the United Nations covenants on human rights.

The situation of human rights had not improved so far, he said. Heavy responsibilities fell not only on the States in question, but on the whole world community in an age of humanism. Every hour lost was detrimental to the population, he said. It was not the purpose of the report to accuse Governments, but to illustrate a human rights situation which required political efforts to find a solution -- not armed struggle.

Statement by Afghanistan

MOHAMMAD FARID ZARIF (Afghanistan) said that "hypocritical concerns over the alleged violation of human rights in Afghanistan first began in the early days of the second cold war when the monstrous propaganda machinery of imperialism launched a world wide defamatory campaign of lies and disinformation alleging the use of chemical weapons in South-East Asia and Afghanistan". The scope of insinuations and false accusations against Afghanistan had widened drastically and become a thoroughly organized and well-orchestrated psychological warfare, he said. At each stage of that "ominous and filthy exercise", Afghanistan had endeavoured to expose the "dirty and immoral essence of the imperialist hue and cry over human rights" in general and in Afghanistan in particular.

He said Afghanistan had left no stone unturned to establish democratic revolutionary legality in law and in deed. All laws and regulations not in line with the principles of justice and democracy were being revised, amended or abolished. So far, 380 revised or new laws, regulations and decrees had been promulgated. Far from taking note of those measures, the "architects of the unholy and criminal propaganda war" had missed no opportunity to escalate their hostile activities in various United Nations bodies, he said. Ulterior political motives were responsible for the present unjust exercise against Afghanistan, he said.

The Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, without any regard for the need for consultations, had appointed as Special Rapporteur a person whose hatred for the type of system in Afghanistan was too obvious to expect from him any unbiased and honest reporting, he said. The "shallow and superfluous hallucinations amassed and put down on paper in the form of the so-called report" were an example of falsehood and fabrication and were a part of the premeditated campaign of lies and insinuations wrapped in the cloak of a supposedly serious document, he said. Nothing more could be expected from

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someone whose youth had begun with voluntary service in the Hitlerite nazi forces. After the War, his neo-fascist activities had been praised by the most reactionary circles in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Mr. Ermacora had relied on the preposterous allegations of the counter-revolutionary ringleaders and other fugitives under their control. he had "shamelessly" insulted the people of Afghanistan by calling their genuinely popular revolution the "so-called Saur Revolution", and did not attempt to hide his political malice towards the revolution by "ludicrously" stating that the regime was unrepresentative. Citing what he called inaccuracies in the report, he said Mr. Ermacora had remained silent on some very important measures by the Government to ensure the enjoyment of such rights and freedoms as the rights to life, health, employment, shelter, and freedom of political belief and participation in State affairs.

The "totally groundless charges and assertions" of the report all testified to the fact that the report had been based on the political consideration of how to frame the Government of Afghanistan and its sincere and trustworthy internationalist friend, the Soviet Union, he went on. The so-called report presented a stark picture of dishonesty, fabrication and gross distortion of facts. The political nature of the report and the role of the imperialist circles and their criminal accomplices in arranging that mock investigation had become so apparent that it could no longer be hidden behind the facade of demagogical human rights and concerns, he said.

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